

*Stated Meeting, March 19, 1886.*

Present, 19 members.

President, Mr. FRALEY, in the Chair.

Lieut. A. W. Wyckoff, U. S. N., Dr. Owen Jones Wistar, and Dr. Charles A. Oliver, were presented to the Chair and took their seats.

Donations to the Library were reported from China Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society; Physikalische Central-Observatorium and K. Akademie der Wissenschaften, St. Petersburg; K. K. Naturhistorische Hof-Museum and K. Akademie der Wissenschaften, Wien; Nassauische Verein für Naturkunde, Wiesbaden; Astronomische Nachrichten, Kiel; Deutsche Geologische Gesellschaft and Verein zur Beförderung des Garten Baues, Berlin; Physikalisch-Medicinische Gesellschaft, Erlangen; Società Toscana di Scienze Naturali, Pisa; Société de Géographie and Mr. H. Welter, Paris; Statistical Society, Hong Kong; Meteorological Office and "Nature," London; Philological Society, Cambridge, England; Manchester Literary and Philosophical Society; Institut Canadien-Française, Ottawa; Canadian Institute, Toronto; Harvard College, New Haven; Publishers of the "Traveller's Record," Hartford; Dr. L. B. Bush, of New York; Brooklyn Entomological Society; Trenton Natural History Society; Franklin Institute, Pennsylvania Historical Society, College of Pharmacy, Dr. D. Jayne & Son and Mr. Henry Phillips, Jr., Philadelphia; Delaware Historical Society; American Chemical Society and American Journal of Philology, Baltimore; United States Naval Institute, Annapolis; Department of State, Hon. Samuel J. Randall, John H. Hickcox, and Engineer Department, Washington; Editor of "The Industrial South," Richmond; Denison University, Granville; Publishers of the "Engineering Era," Cleveland; Washburn College, Topeka; University of California; Mr. Juan Ignacio de Armas of Havana; Deutsche Wissenschaftliche Verein zu Santiago.

A chair was presented on behalf of the Executors of the

late Dr. George Hamilton, of this city, formerly the property of Dr. Chapman, sometime the President of the Society, to whom it had been given by Joseph Bonaparte, ex-King of Spain, from his residence at Bordentown, N. J.

A letter accompanied the gift from Mr. J. McClure Hamilton, the son of the donor, to whom the thanks of the Society were voted.

Letters accepting membership were read from Prof. F. A. Genth, Jr. (Philad'a, March 15th, 1886); Ensign Louis Duncan, (U. S. S. S. *Juniata*, New York Navy Yard, March 15th, 1886).

A letter of envoy was read from the Statistical Society of London, and also asking for certain of the Society's publications, which was referred to the Secretaries with power to act.

A letter was read from the Institute Canadien-Française requesting exchanges, which was similarly referred.

A letter was read from Dr. Clemens Winkler, Freiberg in Sachsen, announcing the discovery by himself of a new non-metallic element to which he had given the name of *Germanium*.

The death of Dr. Austin Flint was announced as having taken place at New York on the 13th day of March, 1886, in the 74th year of his age.

The Lackawanna Institute of Science at Scranton, Pa., was ordered to receive the Catalogue of the Library of the Society and the Proceedings, to begin with No. 117.

Secretary Brinton presented two papers by Dr. W. J. Hoffman, one on the Selish Language and another on the Waitshumni Dialect.

Dr. Horn explained the process among the Piutes of sweetening acorn meal by percolation with water so as to render the product edible.

Lieut. Wyckoff made a verbal communication on the action of heavy vegetable or fish oils in reducing heavy combing waves to long swells that would not injure a vessel. A discussion upon the subject ensued which was participated in by Messrs. Brinton, Dudley, Horn, Holland, Ingham and Oliver.

Various diplomas of Dr. Franklin's were exhibited, lately found in the possession of the Society.

Pending nominations Nos. 1078 to 1103 and new nominations Nos. 1104 and 1105 were read, and, after reading the minutes, the Society was adjourned by the President.

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*Stated Meeting, April 2, 1886.*

Present, 15 members.

Vice-President, Dr. RUSCHENBERGER, in the Chair.

Lieut. Geo. B. Anderson, U. S. A., West Point, N. Y., and Prof. Serge Nikotin, Geological Survey of Russia, St. Petersburg, Russia, newly-elected members, by letter accepted membership in the Society.

Donations to the Library were announced from the following sources, viz: South African Philosophical Society, Cape Town, Africa; Geological Survey of India; Société Impériale des Naturalistes de Moscow, Russia; Zoologischer Anzeiger, Leipzig; Prof. Reuleaux of Berlin; Senckenbergische Naturforschende Gesellschaft, Frankfort-am-Main; Oberlausitzer Gesellschaft der Wissenschaften, Görlitz; Verein für Erdkunde, Halle A. S.; Prof. G. vom Rath of Bonn; Prof. E. Renevier of Lausanne; K. Nordiske Oldskrift Selskab, Copenhagen; R. Accademia dei Lincei, Rome; R. Accademia de Scienze Lettere ed Arti, Modena; R. Academia de la Historia, Madrid; Bureau des Longitudes, Société Zoologique de France, École Polytechnique, Musée Guimet, Société de Géographie, and Prof. Léon de Rosny, Paris; Académie de Dijon; Royal Society, Royal Geographical, Meteorological and Astronomical Societies, Society of Antiquaries, Geological Society, Bath and West of England Society, and the publishers of the "Diplomatic Review," London; Philosophical and Literary Society of Leeds; National Board of Trade, Boston; State Museum of Natural History and Geological Survey of New York, Albany; Engineers' Club of Philadelphia; University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia Board